

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 10 to 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Lehrman, U.S. Patent No. 4,956,928. Claims 10, 14 to 16 and 19 to 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Brodt, U.S. Patent No. 2,026,961. Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Musker, European Patent Office No. 43,700. Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lehrman in view of Ruttenberg, U.S. Patent No. 4,360,984 and over Brodt in view of Ruttenberg. Claim 17 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 10 has been amended. Claim 19 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claim 22 has been added.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

**Claim Objections**

Claim 17 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

New claim 22 now corresponds to previous claim 17. Further, in view of amended claim 10, withdrawal of the objection to current claim 17 is respectfully requested.

**35 U.S.C. 102(b) Rejections:**

**Lehrman, U.S. Patent No. 4,956,928**

Claims 10 to 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Lehrman, U.S. Patent No. 4,956,928.

Claim 10 now recites the limitation of claim 19, which was not rejected under Lehrman.

Withdrawal of the rejections to the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Musker, European Patent Office No. 43,700

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Musker, European Patent Office No. 43,700.

As noted above, Claim 10 now recites the limitation of claim 19, which was not rejected under Musker.

Withdrawal of the rejection to claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Brodt, U.S. Patent No. 2,026,961

Claims 10, 14 to 16 and 19 to 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Brodt, U.S. Patent No. 2,026,961.

Brodt discloses “a sheet of pad material to which a sheet of suitable textile material, such as unbleached muslin, is permanently secured, as by stitching with the thread to form seams.”

Amended claim 10 recites a heat-resistant ironing board cover comprising: an elastic padding, the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding directly contacting a bottom of the ironing board.

Brodt discloses “the padding material continuously covers the upper surface of the open end of the ironing board and terminates laterally of the edges and end of the open end of the ironing board.” Since the padding material of Brodt terminates “laterally of the edges,” Brodt does not disclose “the padding directly contacting a bottom of the ironing board” as claimed. Furthermore, Brodt does not disclose “an elastic padding.” Brodt discloses a sheet of pad material with a sheet of suitable textile material secured thereto. The pad includes a shallow square end pocket portion that encloses the open end of the ironing board. The “sheet of pad material” disclosed in Brodt is not “connectable in a form-fitting manner” as claimed.

Withdrawal of the rejections to the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

With further respect to claim 16, claim 16 recites “the padding has a material stiffening in an area of the bulge.” Brodt discloses “the edge of the pad material is preferably made more thick by being turned back on itself and stitched to the edges of the muslin that are positioned along the lateral edges of the open end of the ironing board with the thread 3 to form an open end

pad seam 12.” Brodt does not disclose an elastic padding, bulges or “material stiffening in an area of the bulge” as claimed. The folded back padding stitched to the muslin forming an open end pad seam in Brodt is not the “material stiffening in an area of the bulge.”

With further respect to claim 21, claim 21 recites “the elastic padding is form fitted solely via bulges connecting at the edges.” Brodt discloses that the “the pad material may have a conventional edge construction, such as a binding tape, a coil spring or the like secured to it along its periphery if desired prior to or after the muslin is attached thereto, or for strengthening, making more bulky, or for stiffening the peripheral edge thereof.” Brodt does not disclose the elastic padding is “form fitted solely via bulges connecting at the edges” as claimed. The conventional edge construction in Brodt is not “form fitted solely via bulges connecting at the edges.”

### 35 U.S.C. 103(a) Rejections

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lehrman in view of Ruttenberg, U.S. Patent No. 4,360,984 and over Brodt in view of Ruttenberg.

Neither, Lehrman, Brodt nor Ruttenberg disclose “an elastic padding, the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding directly contacting a bottom of the ironing board” as recited in claim 10, nor is there any teaching, suggestion or motivation to so modify these references.

In view of the comments above with respect to claim 10, withdrawal of the rejections to the dependent claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

The present application is respectfully submitted as being in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,  
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